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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Hideo KIKUCHI, et al.

Serial No.: 09/995,616

Group Art Unit: 2877 —

Filing Date: November 29, 2001

Examiner: Valentin, Juan D.

For: OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE PATH, MANUFACTURING METHOD AND  
COUPLING METHOD OF THE SAME, AND OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE  
PATH COUPLING STRUCTURE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION AND  
RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2004, please consider the following:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.